

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's  
**EXCITER**



### RARS EVENTS:

- The RARS General Membership meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 PM on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 PM or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

## RARS Classifieds

Looking to add a new radio to your shack? Have an antenna for sale? Browse the RARS classifieds for new and used radio equipment at <http://rars.org/classifieds.php>.

RARS members are welcome to post notices about equipment they are selling. Posts last for 30 days and are editable at any time.

Using our classifieds is a great way for buyers to search for available items and for sellers to reach a local, targeted audience.



### Next RARS Meeting: October 5

7:30 PM: Annual RARS Auction.  
Click [here](#) for more information.

## **RARS OFFICERS:**

### **PRESIDENT**

Karl Bowman

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### **VICE PRESIDENT**

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### **SECRETARY**

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## **The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society**

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website ([www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)).



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## **The Exciter**

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org). Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcome articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

Editor: Courtney Enzor KI4HOS ([editor@rars.org](mailto:editor@rars.org))

### **RARS General Meeting**

*Date:* First Tuesday of each month

*Location:* First Alliance Church

4400 Buffaloe Road

Raleigh, NC

*Time:* People begin arriving at 7 PM. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 PM.

### **RARS Monthly Dinner**

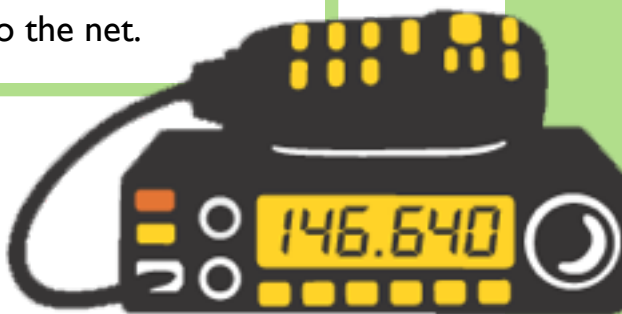
Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family – feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org) for details on the next dinner's location.

### **RARS Repeaters in Raleigh**

145.130 (82.5 PL), 146.640, & 444.525 (82.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 PM on the 146.640. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS member to the net.



## **VE TESTING**

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSFest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$15 exam fee, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org) for more information.

### September Birthdays

Jack	K4WFJ	9/2
Wilbur	WD4RDT	9/3
Andy	KD4FHF	9/4
Mary Jo	K4MJL	9/5
Lou	K4BYN	9/7
Jack	N6UYB	9/8
Philip	KJ4UCZ	9/9
Don	N4APX	9/10
John	N4YRB	9/12
Sam	NC4SJ	9/13
Robin	KI4LEC	9/13
Debra	KJ4AST	9/13
Al	KE4IUK	9/13
Sandy	AC1Y	9/16
Nick	W1GYF	9/16
Ken	N4ZBB	9/18
Rod	KI4LSN	9/20
Ken	ND7N	9/20
Justin	AJ4MJ	9/25
Steve	KI4YXJ	9/25
John	KF4EUZ	9/25
Carolyn	KC4EYK	9/27

### Upcoming Hamfests

9/4- Shelby Hamfest  
9/5 Dallas, NC  
<http://shelbyhamfest.org/hamfest.htm>

9/11 Virginia "Back to the Beach" Hamfest  
Virginia Beach, VA  
<http://www.vbhamfest.com/>

9/11 Greater Louisville Hamfest  
Shepherdsville, KY  
<http://louisvillehamfest.com/>

9/24- 11th Annual TEN-TEC Factory Hamfest  
9/25 Sevierville, TN  
<http://radio.tentec.com/index.php>

10/3 LaGrange Hamfest  
LaGrange, GA  
<http://www.lagrangeradioclub.org/>

### New RARS Members

Bob German	KB3TJS
Tom Hegele	KJ4ULP
Tom Lewis	N4TL
Marisa Sears	KJ4TAL

### July 2010

#### RARS Net Reports

Checkins: 460  
Traffic: 35/30  
Minutes: 505  
Sessions: 31

Special Interest Nets:  
Checkins: 200  
Minutes: 450  
Sessions: 13

# **July 20, 2010 RARS Board Meeting Minutes**

## **Minutes by Charlie Swindell WB4DCM, RARS Secretary**

Present: Chuck K4HF, John AI4RT, Don WA4AVU, Mike WA4BPJ, Greg KE4PAX, Hank K4HM, Selene KG4RMT, Gary KN4AQ, Ken KI4OTO, Charles WB4DCM

Visitors: David KF4VXJ

Apologies: Justin AJ4MJ, Mary KG4OQA, Liz KO4CK, Joe WA4GIR, Virginia NC4VA, Steve KJ4BX

1. Call to order (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.
2. Approval of minutes (Karl W4CHX and Charles WB4DCM): The Minutes of the June 15, 2010 meeting of the RARS Board were approved as written.
3. Vice President's report (Justin AJ4MJ): Based on his email communication, there is no report. Justin AJ4MJ supports compensating Jim N4CAE for use of the Field Day site (see discussion under New Business)
4. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): There are 196 members of RARS (258 members at the end of FY2009-10); and, RARS has received a \$500.00 donation from Ms. Bet Helms-Wisdom, the wife of Jim Wisdom, K4HCG (SK). Additional financial data is available to RARS members from the Treasurer or the President.
5. Secretary's report (Charles WB4DCM): No report
6. Committee reports:
  - a. Public Service Director (John AI4RT): The next public service event is the New Bern MS Ride (9/12) and volunteers are being recruited for this activity.
  - b. Public Information Officer (Gary KN4AQ): Good publicity was achieved for RARS Field Day 2010; an article was published in the Raleigh News and Observer and television coverage via News 14 Carolina; the latter can be viewed at [www.youtube.com/user/KN4AQ2](http://www.youtube.com/user/KN4AQ2).
  - c. Education Director (Virginia NC4VA): Based on her email communication, Virginia NC4VA indicated that SKYWARN had been activated and she did not

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know whether she would attend the Board meeting. She reported that a Technician class is being organized and new Technician manuals needed to be ordered. RARS still has some out-of-date Technician manuals and it is not clear what should be done with them. After discussion, it was decided that the out-of-date manuals should be recycled.

- d. Field Day Chair (Mike WA4BPJ): It was reported that RARS did well; 12,802 points were accumulated; all logs and documentation have been received by Mike WA4BPJ; and, a report will be sent to ARRL soon.
- e. FM Repeater Chair (Gary KN4AQ): It was reported that the Wilmington-area reporter that used to be on 146.64 has been moved to 147.375; it is not clear how frequently users in Wilmington could be heard by Raleigh-area users and vice versa; with regard to the RARS Repeater Technical Group, there is no additional progress to report.
- f. RARSFest Chair (John AI4RT): No report.
- g. Exciter Chair (Courtney KI4HOS): No report.
- h. Hospitality Chair (Mary Jo K4MJL): No report. During discussions, it was recommended that the sign-in table at the monthly RARS membership meeting be moved closer to the sanctuary entrance.
- i. Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA): Based on her email communication, “the nets are going fine”.
- j. ARRL Liaison (Chuck K4HF): It was reported that the FCC has acted (passed) on the proposal to allow amateur radio operations during government-sponsored emergency preparedness and disaster readiness drills and tests. There were discussion about the ARRL Diamond Club, which has been set up for donations from individuals versus donations from amateur radio clubs.
- k. At-Large Director (Don WA4AVU): No report.
- l. At-Large Director (Ken KI4OTO): No report.
- m. At-Large Director (Steve KJ4BX): Based on his email communication, there is no report.

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- n. W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (Jeff AC4ZO): No report.
- o. RARSVE Coordinators (Joe WA4GIR and Liz KO4CK): Based on an email communication from Liz KO4CK, 9 members of the RARSVE team administered examinations at the Cary Mid-Summer Swapfest, July 17, 2010. Eight individuals took examinations. Of those, one went from Technician to Amateur Extra; one from non-licensed to General; three from Technician to General; and, two from non-licensed to Technician. Only one person did not get anything and that person only missed by one question. It was considered to be a very good session and unusual in that there were more individuals for upgrade to General than to become licensed for the first time. The next examination session will be at the RARS general membership meeting on August 3, 2010.
- p. RARS Webmaster (Hank K4HM): It was reported that a RARS member was concerned about information on the main page of the website being quite old. Hank indicated that all members are encouraged to submit news items and other new content for the website to replace old content. Also RSS feeds related to amateur radio are currently being considered. Hank reported that he had received another offer to pay us to provide a link to some advertisement, but since the link still had nothing to do with amateur radio the offer was declined again. Hank also reported that the Member Profile Database that was tested last year is being redesigned and should be online soon. It will provide better password protection for pages on our website and will allow some improvements in several areas of the website.

## 7. Old Business:

- a. Audit of RARS financial records: No report; the members of the audit committee (Karl W4CHX, Ken KI4OTO, Greg KE4PAX) need to meet to complete this task. Don WA4AVU agreed to participate as the fourth member on the audit committee.
- b. Donation to NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine: Karl W4CHX advised that the donation to the vet school for use of the facilities during the 2010 RARSFest will be forwarded to the proper individuals and applied to the appropriate scholarship fund.
- c. Donation of supplies to 2010 RARS Field Day: David KF4VXJ reported that “thank you” letters have been sent to all parties except one that made

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donations of supplies to our 2010 Field Day operation. He thanked Steve KJ4BX for helping to disburse water during the event.

8. New Business:

- a. Request to compensate Jim N4CAE for use of the Field Day site: There was extensive discussion about compensating Jim N4CAE for the use of his land for Field Day. Mr. Carroll had expended about \$500.00 to have the land mowed, but recovered about \$150.00 from the sale of hay. Ken KI4OTO made a motion that the Board of Directors recommend to the RARS membership to approve \$350.00 reimbursement to Mr. Jim Carroll for the use of his property for Field Day 2010 purposes. Selene KG4RMT seconded the motion. After further discussion, the motion was passed.
- b. Communication from Bob Conder K4RLC: Greg KE4PAX read a communication that he had received from Bob K4RLC.

9. Board Member's Comments:

- a. Karl W4CHX: Karl advised that the Dayton Hamvention has established a "club of the year" award, which apparently is similar to their "ham of the year" award. He has not seen the application form but thinks that RARS can put forth a good application. Karl W4CHX will initially spearhead this issue.
- b. Mike WA4BPJ: Mike thanked all who helped make Field Day a success.
- c. Greg KE4PAX: Greg asked if the \$350.00 payment to Mr. Carroll should come out of the past fiscal year or the current fiscal year. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the payment would have to come out of the current fiscal year. The Field Day budget is in our public service account and the \$350.00 will come out of that fund.
- d. Gary KN4AQ: Gary stated that RARS had a very good GOTA station operation at the 2010 RARS Field Day. He has written an article about our GOTA station and sent it in to ARRL. Gary commented that he had completed the NIMS courses for ARES.

10. Adjournment (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM.

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# **August 3, 2010 RARS General Meeting Minutes**

## **Minutes by Charlie Swindell WB4DCM, RARS Secretary**

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Karl W4CHX. There were 60 members and 3 guests present.
2. Approval of the minutes: The Minutes of the RARS General Membership meeting of July 6, 2010 were approved as written.
3. Vice President's report (Justin AJ4MJ): No report.
4. Treasurer's Report (Greg KE4PAX): RARS has 213 members. We have \$45,432 in cash and inventory. We currently have 20 ARRL Ham Radio license Manuals. The RARSFest has produced a profit of \$4,134.
5. Announcements (Karl W4CHX):
  1. RARS Dinner: is the second Tuesday of each month (August 10) at 6:30 PM, Golden Corral, 2909 Millbrook Rd (at the corner of Capital Blvd and Millbrook Rd), monitor the 146.64 repeater on Tuesday (8/10) for any update information.
  2. Poll for the RARS Dinner: since the Golden Corral on Glenwood Avenue/ Hwy 70 is going to be closed temporarily, we need your input on places to try for the next several months; please use the poll for this purpose which is on the home page of the RARS website: key points to consider in your recommendation: up to 25 diners may be present, the cost of the meal should be inexpensive, buffet-style food selection is preferred, and availability of a private room is preferred; this could lead to a permanent change in location for future RARS dinners. Presently, very few votes have been received. The Golden Corral on Glenwood Ave has in the past allowed us to use their private dining room.
  3. After meeting gathering: Applebee's, Six Forks and Wake Forest Roads (by Costco).
  4. Upcoming hamfests: Cape Fear ARS SwapFest, Fayetteville, NC on August 7; ARRL Alabama Section Convention, Huntsville, AL on August 21 & 22; ARRL West Virginia State Convention, Weston, WV on August 21; and Cedars of Lebanon Hamfest, Gladeville, TN on August 28. For additional information, go the ARRL website.
  5. Guests: Carl Anderson KJ4RZS of Apex; Joe Spears AF1E of Conover; and Barbara Brewer KB9TIV of Holly Springs.

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6. Reports from RARS Board members and others:
    1. Request to compensate Jim N4CAE for use of the Field Day site: President Karl introduced this matter by advising that the Board had this request and recommends that the RARS membership approve \$350 reimbursement to Mr. Jim Carroll for the use of his property for Field Day 2010. Charles WB4DCM moved that the RARS membership approve this motion. David KF4VXJ seconded the motion. Mike WA4BPJ then provided a brief discussion about the cost to have the area mowed and subsequent selling of the hay. In this specific year, the cost of mowing exceeded the value of the hay. The question was asked if we had talked with Mr. Carroll and in fact we had. Next, have we paid in the past? No. Is this in the current budget? No, because we have already approved our current budget, it will have to go into the next budget. The motion was approved by the membership.
    2. Public Service Chair (John AI4RT) advised that we had several events coming up. Please go to the RARS website for additional information and to volunteer.
  7. Any other business:
    1. President Karl commented that there were donuts left but the healthy food was about gone. He complimented RARS for eating more healthy.
    2. Rod KI4LSN commented that the Boy Scouts had re-established their communication merit badge. He was going to be working with a group in Apex to help the Scouts earn the badge.
  8. Drawings: Joe NILVN and Don WA4AVU were the winners of the door prizes.
  9. Program: VP Justin AJ4MJ introduced our guest speaker, Jim Staley KE6FNW who did a presentation on "Switching Power Supplies". Let me add, that he used a very good technique to explain what has to be a complex subject. Shame on you if you missed the meeting.
  10. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 9:03PM by President Karl W4CHX.
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# Local Amateur Radio Nets

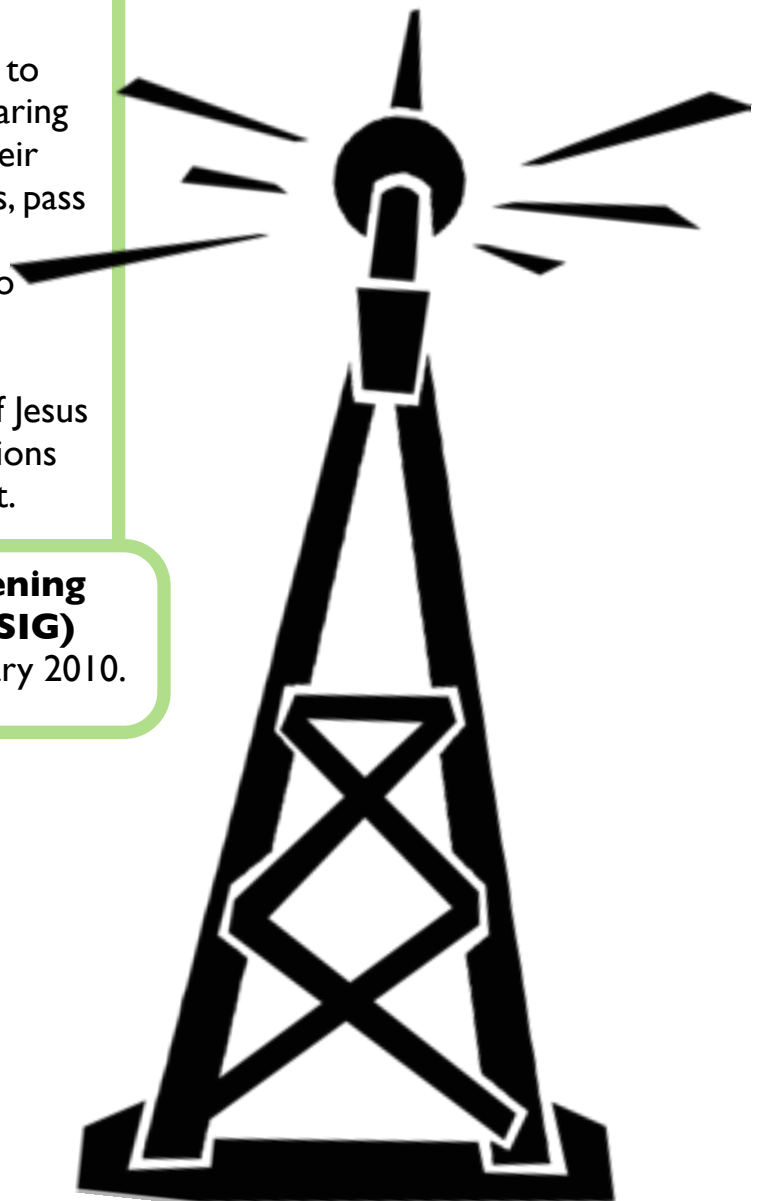
The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 at 8:30 PM.

## **Apex Emergency Response Communications Net**

This net meets weekly each Sunday evening @ 9 PM on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

FYI: The **Tarheel Shortwave Listening (SWL) Special Interest Group (SIG) Net** has been discontinued as of January 2010.

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to [www.voipwx.net](http://www.voipwx.net).



# Local Amateur Radio Nets

Join us every evening at 8 PM on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

## Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday @ 9:15 PM on the 146.880 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at [www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net](http://www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net).

The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 PM on the 146.880. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The **Wake County ARES Net** meets Thursdays around 2115 on the 146.880 repeater. We provide discussion and training for the implementation and provision of emergency communications for our served agencies, such as the American Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. For more information, check out [www.wakeares.org](http://www.wakeares.org).

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 PM. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit [www.carolina440.net](http://www.carolina440.net).

**Looking for the latest in  
public service opportunities?  
Visit [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org) to find  
out about upcoming events  
and sign up.**

*The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's*

**EXCITER**

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